

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ACCRA 00604 240854Z

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FOR CU/AF, USIA FOR IAA

EO 11652 NA
TAGS: OEXC, GH
SUB: AMSPEC STANLEY KUNITZ

REF: ACCRA 306,

1. AFTER ENCOUNTERING HOSTILE DEMONSTRATION AT U/GHANA DESCRIBED REFTEL, AMSPEC KUNITZ PARTICIPATED IN SUCCESSFUL PROGRAMS IN ACCRA AND KUMASI AND RECEIVED EXCELLENT RECEPTION FROM WRITERS, ACADEMICS, CULTURAL OFFICIALS, AND STUDENTS.
 2. KUNITZ, ESCORTED BY GHANA ASSOCIATION OF WRITER'S PRESIDENT ATUKWEI OKAI, CALLED ON TRADITIONAL LEADERS IN ACCRA AND ON THE ASANTEHENE IN KUMASI. VISITED RURAL VILLAGE AND ENJOYED CEREMONIES AND MUSIC PERFORMED IN HIS HONOR.
 3. WITH CAO VISITED LEGON DAY AFTER DISTURBANCE WHICH BROKE-UP FIRST PROGRAM. HAD LONG AND CORDIAL MEEETING WITH VICE-CHANCELLOR AND MEMBERS OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT WHO ASKED HIM FOR ADVICE ON SYLLABUS OF PROPOSED AMERICAN LITERATURE COURSE.
 4. READING AT AMERICAN CENTER JANUARY 15 DREW INVITED AUDIENCE OF 80 UNIVERSITY AND SIXTH FORM STUDENTS, LITERATURE PROFESSORS, AND LEADERS OF BOTH GHANAIAAN WRITER'S
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PAGE 02 ACCRA 00604 240854Z

ASSOCIATIONS. KUNITZ WAS INTRODUCED BY KAYPER-MENSAH, PROMINENT POET AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL SECRETARY FOR

CULTURE. KUNITZ READING WAS WELL RECEIVED AND MANY GOOD QUESTIONS WERE ASKED ABOUT HIS POETRY AND AMERICAN LITERATURE GENERALLY. NEXT DAY LIBRARY RECEIVED THREE REQUESTS FROM PROFESSORS FOR COPIES KUNITZ'S WRITINGS.

5. IN KUMASI, KUNITZ PROGRAMMED AT USIS LIBRARY IN COOPERATION WITH LOCAL BRANCH OF GHANA ASSOCIATION OF WRITERS. INVITED AUDIENCE OF 70 INCLUDED REGIONAL COMMISSIONER, DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL CULTURAL CENTER, UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS, AND SEVERAL WRITERS. NINE GHANAIAAN POETS ALSO READ THEIR OWN WORKS. REPSONSE WAS AGAIN POSITIVE THOUGH NUMBER OF GHANAIAAN READERS ON THE PROGRAM CUT EXCESSIVELY INTO KUNITZ'S OWN PRESENTATION. WHILE IN KUMASI, HE MADE CALLS AT UNIVERSITY AND WAS GUEST OF HONOR AT DINNER HOSTED BY BPAO.

6. AT AIRPORT DEPARTURE KUNITZ WAS GIVEN GIFT OF ELABORATE STOOL FROM GHANA ASSOCIATION OF WRITERS WHO ASSEMBLED TO SEE HIM OFF.

7. POST CONSIDERS VISIT VERY POSITIVE EXPERIENCE. EVEN DEMONSTRATION HAD SOME GOOD FALL-OUT AS ANOTHER GROUP OF STUDENTS AND PROFESSORS ISSUED STATEMET LAST WEEK DENOUNCING ACTION BY NATIONAL UNION OF GHANAIAAN STUDENTS AS VIOLATION OF FREE SPEECH. STATEMENT, WHICH CHALLENGED NUGS TO PROVE THEIR CLAIM OF USIS-CIA LINK, WAS DISTRIBUTED IN MIMEOGRAPHED FORM ON CAMPUS BUT NOT REPORTED IN PRESS AS NUGS MESSAGE HAD BEEN.

8. KUNITZ IS WARM, OUTGOING PERSON WHO ENJOYS MEETING PEOPLE OF ALL TYPES. HE GIVES SERIOUS ATTENTION TO YOUNG WRITERS. POST OFFICERS WERE GREATLY IMPRESSED WITH HIS STAMINA AND GOOD NATURE.
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